



CARMEL WELCOMES HOTEL CARMICHAEL

The Hotel Carmichael officially opened its doors on August 27 in Carmel's growing City Center. The 122-room, six-story luxurious hotel located at 1 Carmichael Square, features 5,000 square feet of meeting space; the Vivante, an elegant full-service restaurant serving French fare; Adagio, an intimate lobby lounge; and Feinstein's Cabaret, a live music and entertainment venue offering an elevated menu and upscale bar program.

Hotel Carmichael, which gets its name as a reflection of both Carmel and Michael Feinstein, the City's Grammy-nominated performer and artistic director of The Center for the Performing Arts, is the only Autograph Collection hotel in the state of Indiana and unique for its design, its high quality service and for the unique experience visitors will have in the heart of our community. As its slogan says, Hotel Carmichael is *"Always Live, Never Scripted."*

The opening brings to fruition a plan, more than 15 years in the making, to build a unique boutique hotel that serves tourists, business travelers and local

residents seeking a one of a kind, original experience. Situated next to the Palladium, along the Monon Greenway, Hotel Carmichael offers guests convenient access to The Center for the Performing Arts, Midtown and the Arts & Design District. The Hotel Carmichael's boutique design provides an ambience that is elegant yet intimate, luxurious yet approachable.

"Hotel Carmichael is designed to inspire a journey through history with all of the modern-day amenities a traveler desires," said Jamie Hopwood, general manager.

"Our unique property is a point of cultural and creative discovery in the heart of the center of Carmel. With stories to tell, Hotel Carmichael is set to surprise, entertain and inspire with a storybook experience."



CITY BUDGET

Mayor Brainard presented a balanced 2021 budget to the Carmel City Council during its regular meeting in early October. The General Fund Budget request for 2021 is \$110,115,130, which is 2.1 percent lower than the 2020 budget. The City uses financial information from its six-year fiscal plan, updated constantly for the past 24 years, to project future revenues and expenses. It also allows the department directors to prioritize expenditures while being aware of the long-term impact of their decisions. The City maintains \$11.3 million in the Rainy Day Fund, which is the second highest fund balance of its kind in the State of Indiana. Here are some highlights of the 2021 budget:

- No Cost of Living Adjustment for employees
- \$4.5 million for Street Department paving of local streets
- \$90,000 for Fire Department to hire a new full-time crisis management coordinator
- Six additional Carmel Police officers (including four school resource officers)

At the hotel ribbon cutting, pictured from left to right:

- Michael Feinstein – Artistic Director of The Center for the Performing Arts
- Bill Brooks – CRC Commissioner
- Jeff Worrell – City Councilor and CRC Commissioner
- Henry Mestetsky – CRC Executive Director
- Jim Brainard – City of Carmel Mayor
- Bill Hammer – CRC Commissioner
- Jenell Fairman – CRC Deputy Director
- Dave Bowers – CRC Commissioner



MAYOR'S COLUMN

Despite the challenges of 2020, Carmel has grown and continued to attract economic development opportunities. We remain financially strong as a City with low tax rates, a strong AA rating from S&P and millions of dollars saved through a strategic refinancing of bonds.

As we continue to persevere through the COVID-19 pandemic, our local small businesses innovated and adapted. Our city unemployment rate is trending in a positive direction. It has rebounded from 8.8 in April to 3.6 in October.

Over the past year, despite the challenges, we have experienced business growth in Carmel. This summer we broke ground on the new BraunAbility Advanced Engineering Center on Carmel Drive, we welcomed another new corporate headquarters when the Manhattan-based Simplifeye relocated their software headquarters to Main Street and saw continued job growth in the healthcare sector.

In August, despite many hurdles in the global construction industry, we celebrated the grand opening of the Hotel Carmichael and it is off to a great start.

Carmel continues to not only survive, but to thrive and grow during this global pandemic thanks to the same economic development strategies that have served us well during the past two decades.

We pay attention to the day-to-day operations of the city including creating a balanced budget and creating a strong fiscal plan that will help us continue to grow and serve our community.

Our local property taxes remain among the lowest of 117 cities in Indiana and our 2021 budget is roughly 2.1 percent lower than the 2020 budget.

We recently capitalized on our City's strong financial position and AA bond rating from S&P to refinance a pair of bonds at a low rate of just 1.99 percent. This will save us nearly \$17 million in interest payments.

It's been a tough year and we are not out of the woods yet. But as a city, we have not let the pandemic slow us down...and I think that is important.

We remain focused on taking the right steps to protect the health of our community.

We continue to improve...we continue to attract corporate headquarters and good-paying jobs and we remain financially sound.

I am confident that we will get through this together and look forward to a new year and better, brighter future.

Jim Brainard

Mayor Jim Brainard can be reached by calling 317-571-2401 or by email at jbrainard@carmel.in.gov

CARMEL CLAY PARKS & RECREATION TAKES GOLD

On October 27, Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation was awarded the Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management for the second time. The American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA), in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), announced the six national winners during the 2020 NRPA annual conference livestream.

CCPR first received the Class III Gold Medal Award for parks serving populations of 75,001-150,000 in 2014. After a mandatory sit-out period, 2020 marked the first year the department was once again eligible to win this prestigious award.

The Gold Medal Award is recognized as the highest honor for a park and recreation system. More importantly, it demonstrates CCPR's sustained level of excellence in serving the residents of



Pictured from L to R:

- Michael Klitzing, Director of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation
- James L. Engledow, Secretary of the Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation
- Leon Younger, President & CEO of PROS Consulting
- Rich F. Taylor III, President of the Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation

Carmel and Clay Township with high quality parks, facilities, and programs. "We are incredibly proud of our team for this outstanding level of achievement. To win this award consecutively is an honor and a reflection of the innovation and dedication of every person at CCPR," said Michael Klitzing, Director of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation.

CARMEL CITY COUNCIL

The Carmel City Council is comprised of nine members elected to four-year terms; three at-large and six elected from six districts.

The City Council constitutes the legislative body of the city. It has power over city budget and passes city ordinances and resolutions. Mail may be sent to City Council Members at: One Civic Square, Carmel, IN 46032



LAURA CAMPBELL
Council President
North District
(317) 432-9985
lcampbell@carmel.in.gov



SUE FINKAM
Vice President and Parliamentarian
Northeast District
(317) 614-5835
sfinkam@carmel.in.gov



KEVIN 'WOODY' RIDER
Council Chaplain
At-Large
(317) 503-7095
krider@carmel.in.gov



JEFF WORRELL
At-Large
(317) 471-9836
jworrell@carmel.in.gov



TIM HANNON
At-Large
(317) 696-0115
thannon@carmel.in.gov



BRUCE KIMBALL
Central District
(317) 476-0841
bkimball@carmel.in.gov



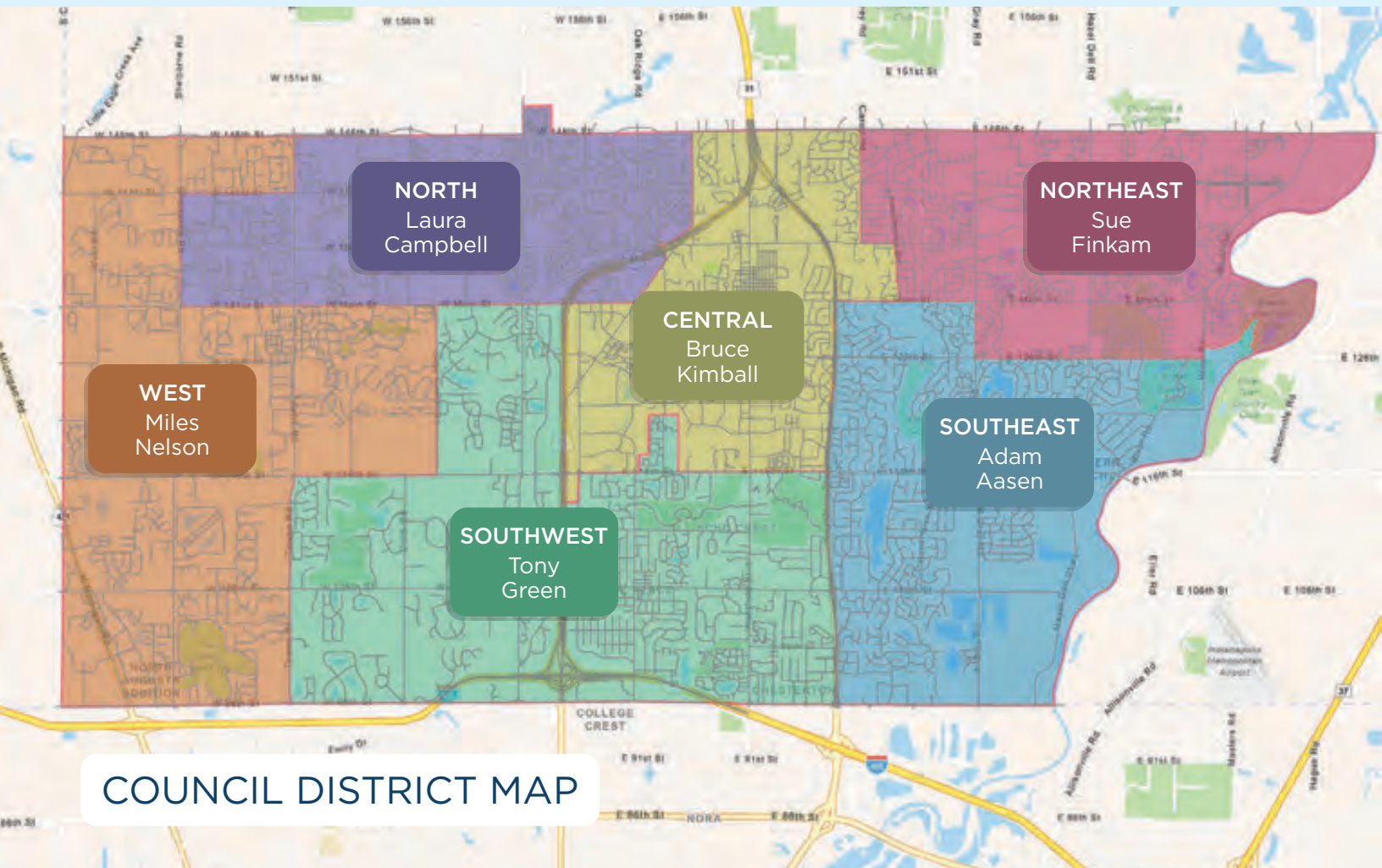
MILES NELSON
West District
(317) 696-5857
mnelson@carmel.in.gov



TONY GREEN
Southwest District
(317) 408-9071
agreen@carmel.in.gov



ADAM AASEN
Southeast District
(317) 696-4640
aaasen@carmel.in.gov





CITY OF CARMEL'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

In early March, when COVID-19 was declared a public health emergency, communities across the country assumed a new normal. What occurred in Carmel and continued due to surges in late autumn, was a concerted effort on the part of City officials, staff members and many community partners to bring engagement and hope to city residents, businesses and visitors while keeping them safe.

Behind the scenes, initiatives were created to bring meals to frontline healthcare workers, parades to residents in senior living facilities and creative expressions all around the City including driveway and sidewalk art, online special events and campaigns launched to promote safety protocols in a fun way.

As the City continues to stay connected, be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest news and events.



Officer Lucas Gossett and Officer Jonathan Rice encourage the community to mask up.

MARCH
6

First confirmed case of COVID-19 in a Hoosier, Governor declares a public health disaster emergency

MARCH
11

COVID-19 declared pandemic by World Health Organization, President declares national health emergency

MARCH
13

Carmel Clay Schools close



MARCH
16

First reported death in Indiana due to COVID-19

MARCH
18

EMERGENCY DECLARATION (LOCAL):
Mayor Brainard issues "Watch" level travel advisory

MARCH
23

EXECUTIVE ORDERS (STATE):

- Governor issues Stay at Home order
- Governor prohibits in-person dining

MARCH
26

EXECUTIVE ORDER (LOCAL):
Mayor closes section of Monon Greenway and Midtown Plaza due to heavy congestion and lack of proper physical distancing

APRIL
1

COVID-19 TESTING BEGINS
Mayor begins weekly COVID-19 testing of public safety and frontline workers

APRIL
2

CARMEL CARES
City launches Carmel Cares programs to keep the community engaged, active and socially connected while helping others



CARMEL CARES

APRIL
3

COVID-19 TESTING

Mayor strongly encourages COVID-19 tests at nursing homes and assisted living facilities

APRIL
9

COVID-19 TESTING: Mayor works with local lab to send COVID-19 test kits to New York



FEED THE FRONTLINES:

Carmel starts Feed the Frontlines for local restaurants to prepare meals for frontline healthcare workers



READ TO FEED:

Initiative on Instagram helps raise money to provide 54,390 meals to 529 children in the Summer Meals Program

APRIL
13

WEARING IS CARING

Council and Mayor launch Wearing is Caring campaign encouraging face coverings in public



WEARING IS CARING
#WearingIsCaring

APRIL
23

COVID-19 TESTING

Mayor begins local contact tracing plan for COVID-19 positive individuals

RECONNECTING CARMEL

Mayor establishes Business Advisory Task Force and begins formulating his Reconnecting Carmel plan



APRIL
24



Carmel Fire Department's Chief Dave Haboush and Division Chief John Moriarity host first of more than 30 COVID-19 information booths at local places of business, which are continuing still.

MAY
1

EXECUTIVE ORDER (STATE):

Governor's order encompasses stages one and two of five-stage plan to reopen businesses

MAY
22



Mayor reopens Monon Greenway and Midtown Plaza

JUNE
10

RECONNECTING CARMEL:

City launches initiative for small businesses to take the Shop Healthy Pledge



JULY
6

City Hall reopens to the public with restrictions and safety measures



NOV
6

Between July and November, City Hall opened with safety restrictions in place; due to increased cases it closed to the public again

NOV
10

Mayor encourages reconsidering family and social gatherings to help to stop spread of virus

NOV
13

EXECUTIVE ORDER (STATE):

Governor issues county-based measures and restrictions based on impact and spread of virus

NOV
20

FEED THE FRONTLINES program reinstated and to date, more than 9,000 meals have been delivered to two local hospitals

NOV
25

City announces safe, physically distant and virtual holiday events

CARMEL POLICE DEPARTMENT

The City's public safety departments have risen to the challenges that the past nine months of 2020 presented. From the COVID-19 pandemic to the global response to racial injustice, they have continued to serve and protect the city while facing these unprecedented events.



The Carmel Police Department is proud to welcome 10 new members to the department. **Top Row L to R:** Austin Meinhardt, Jade Bess, Chris Wolak, Jerek Murphy. **Middle Row L to R:** Tom Szybowski, Jennifer Chavez, Nathan Schuck. **Bottom Row L to R:** Chief Jim Barlow, Eli Rebollar, Zach Copas, Chad Nickson



CARMEL FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Carmel Fire Department's own class of recruits concluded their fire school training and emergency medical technician school in the summer and following graduation, began work as probationary firefighters. This new class filled numerous new positions as CFD is officially running a second tiller out of Station 45. This is only the third tiller apparatus in the state of Indiana.



Thank you to Clay Township for the invaluable addition of the tiller truck to the Carmel Fire Department.

Tiller trucks, designed to provide maximum maneuverability through tight traffic, have a front and rear driver who are in constant contact with one another via headset to ensure they work together as a team. Upon arrival on the scene of a fire, the tiller crew splits up with the officer and two backseat firefighters forming a group while the two front drivers (engineers) team up and position the truck for use of the large aerial ladder.

Thank you to Clay Township for the invaluable addition of the tiller truck to the Carmel Fire Department.

In addition to their regular duties, CFD scheduled COVID-19 information booths at various locations throughout the city to hand out hand sanitizer, disposable face masks and answer questions from the public. To date, CFD has hosted over 30 booths, which are continuing still.

CFD NEW HEADQUARTERS



Pictured from L to R: Paul Hensel (Clay Township Board), Chief David Haboush, Mary Eckard (Clay Township Board), Rich Taylor (Envoy, Inc.), and Matt Snyder (Clay Township Board)

In early October, Clay Township, the City of Carmel, and Envoy, Inc. hosted a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Carmel Clay Community Building that will be located at 210 Veterans Way where the Carmel Fire Buffs Museum was located. This new facility will be home to the new Carmel Fire Department Headquarters, Carmel Fire Buffs Museum and a permanent home for the fire department's educational program, Survive Alive. The building will include space that will be open for public use on the third floor of the building as well as a roof top area.



Pictured from L to R: Rick Martin (Engineer - Carmel Fire Dept), Terry Prather (Carmel Fire Buffs), Jim Martin (Carmel Fire Buffs President and Asst. Chief of CFD, Retired), and Doug Callahan (Clay Township Trustee and Chief of CFD, Retired)

CARMEL TESTS WASTEWATER TO FORECAST COVID



The City continues to test its wastewater to determine the prevalence of COVID-19 infections within the community. These studies can show an increase of the virus in the community up to 10 days ahead of a possible spike in positive cases where

medical care is required. Wastewater samples are being collected at the Carmel Wastewater Treatment Plant and analyzed for the presence of SARS-CoV-2, the Coronavirus that is causing the COVID-19 infections.

Mayor Jim Brainard said the City is taking this extra step to assist local hospitals as they respond to a growing number of COVID-19 patients. The additional evidence of positive tests will allow hospital leaders to make more informed decisions on matters such as hospital staffing, scheduling elective surgeries, allocation of pharmaceuticals and other matters. In addition, the data helps the State coordinate patient placement and employers to make better decisions about business gatherings and whether employees should work at home.

HOME PLACE WATER PROJECT

With the recent annexation of the Home Place area in Carmel, the City began a project that will bring water availability to residents that previously did not have municipally-treated water as well as some residents in small areas in the south west portion of Carmel. After this project is completed, more than 44,000 feet of water main will be added to Carmel Utilities' system. This expansion will aid in maintaining water quality as it will allow Carmel Utilities to eliminate some dead-end mains and increase the looping of our system providing increased flow rates.

WASTEWATER PLANT EXPANSION

To meet Carmel's continued growth, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, located at 96th Street and Hazel Dell Parkway, is expanding its capacity from 12 million gallons per day to 14 million gallons per day. The expansion includes the addition of two new aeration tanks, and one final clarifier along with piping/pump replacements and additions.

When the expansion project is completed, a series of improvement projects will begin that will allow the plant to biologically or chemically remove phosphorus from Carmel's wastewater effluent. Final effluent limitations of phosphorus will be permit-regulated by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management effective December 1, 2021.



A rendering of the new Carmel Fire Department Headquarters and Carmel Fire Buffs Museum. Pictured from L to R: Mary Eckard, Paul Hensel, Carmel Fire Marshal Luke Ray, and Matt Snyder





HOMAGE TO HOAGY AND PUBLIC ART

“Homage to Hoagy” is a public art installation by Arlon Bayliss that celebrates the life and work of Indiana native, Hoagy Carmichael.

Commissioned in 2018 and installed in 2020, the project features a large sculpture and two interactive kiosks. The 38-foot-tall central sculpture, located on a roundabout at City Center Drive and 3rd Avenue SW, is inspired by the songwriter’s lyrics and the timeless impact of his work. Hidden among the stars, moons and musical notes that burst joyfully from a tilted gramophone horn is a single skylark, a reference to one of Hoagy’s famous compositions.

The structure is illuminated from within at night by a rainbow of colored lights and complemented by two interactive, information kiosks installed on sidewalks nearby. The gramophone styled kiosks feature crank handles that activate digital recordings of well-known Carmichael compositions by famous artists, old and

new, including Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, the Four Freshmen, Michael Bublé and Bette Midler. These recordings will be changed periodically to keep the content fresh and interesting to repeat visitors.

Public art enhances Carmel’s unique identity and creates a space that is memorable and exciting while bringing culture and relevance to the city.



STREET COMMISSIONER DAVE HUFFMAN RETIRES



City Street Commissioner Dave Huffman retired October 30 after a 32-year career in which he oversaw the maintenance of the City’s transportation network during historic population growth. Current Operations Manager Terry Killen was appointed by Mayor Jim Brainard to replace Huffman as the next Commissioner.

Huffman had a long career in public service and leadership. An employee in the Street Department since April 1988, he became interim Street Commissioner in 2007 and was appointed officially in December of that same year. During his years of service and his tenure as Commissioner, the department has provided a nearly incomparable level of service for the city. As Carmel has grown over the years, the Street Department has maintained its level of service managing 406 miles of streets and 47 roundabouts in 2007 to today’s 544 miles and 134 roundabouts and also elevating the aesthetics.



Monon Greenway in Midtown



Roundabout at Carmel Drive and Pennsylvania



Roundabouts in Central Park at 111th and Lexington

CONSTRUCTION AROUND THE CITY

Construction progressed in 2020 despite COVID-19. Projects listed below were completed in late 2019 and 2020:

- 96th Street and Keystone Parkway Interchange
- Carmel Drive and Pennsylvania Roundabout
- North Range Line Road and the Lowes Way Connector (Hamilton County project)
- Monon Boulevard and Monon Greenway Expansion
- 116th Street and College Avenue Roundabout
- 116th Street and Guilford Road Roundabout
- 96th Street and Haverstick Roundabout
- 111th Street Roundabouts – under construction as part of Clay Township's Impact Program



MIDTOWN PLAZA NEWS

This spring, construction concluded on the next phase of the Monon Boulevard and Monon Greenway expansion, including water features, a bright blue climbing structure, bocce ball court and a sculpture titled Love at First Ride, featuring three larger than life bicycles. These bicycles, by sculptor Wiktor Szostalo, are sure to become iconic with bells on their handlebars that actually ring.

Sun King Distillery and Fork + Ale House on the plaza welcomed new neighbors this year as well. Penn & Beech Candle Co. opened its doors in late February and Carmel's second Java House location was open for business in early July.

New events launched this year in Midtown. The Carmel Mayor's Youth Council hosted International Movies at Midtown Plaza to encourage cross-cultural dialogue and awareness. Movies selected for these showings were family-friendly and focused on celebrating and educating about other cultures.

Midtown's Got Talent, a four-week long talent contest, open to youth, teen and adult competitors, took place right on the stage in the heart of Midtown Plaza. This year, 30 competitors in the three different age categories, gave it their all with eight winners taking home over \$4,000 in prize winnings.

Teen 1st Place and Outstanding Stage Performance: **Peter Fulton**
2nd Place and Outstanding Vocal Performance: **Emily Legg**



Adult 1st Place and Outstanding Vocal Performance: **Samantha Buck**

2nd Place: **Daniel Yount**

3rd Place and Outstanding Stage Performance: **Erica Thompson**

Youth 1st Place and Outstanding Stage Performance: **Gabi Bradley**

2nd Place: **Lilian Hirschfeld**

3rd Place and Outstanding Vocal Performance: **Alec Evard**



"Love at First Ride" by Wiktor Szostalo

The Monon expansion in Midtown is becoming one of the most popular destinations in the city with both walkable and bikeable paths, creative landscaping, restaurants and activities for kids. It is easy to see why this public space was submitted in several categories for the Indy Chamber Monumental Awards in September. (see sidebar on pg. 11)



Monon Greenway at Midtown



"Sail" by Owens + Crawley | Photo by Amy Payne



Jim Staton (left), Senior VP and Chief Business Development Officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, joined BraunAbility CEO Staci Kroon (center) and Mayor Jim Brainard at the groundbreaking

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL NEWS

Bash Boutique opened its Carmel location in early November and features trendy and affordable women's clothing and accessories.

Bask on Main "one-stop-shop for all things beauty" opened in September in the Arts & Design District.

BraunAbility Global Innovation Lab is being constructed next to BraunAbility's global headquarters on Carmel Drive and is a leading manufacturer of mobility transportation solutions.

BEHN Gallery was opened in the Village of West Clay in September by Indiana-based photographer Roben Bellomo and Dallas-based photographer Jim Hamel.

BIBIBOP Asian Grill brings Korean-inspired, fast-casual dining to its newest location in The Bridges.

Industrious is the largest premium flexible workspace provider; slated to open in 2021 it will bring 27,000 square feet of office space to Carmel City Center.

Lily & Sparrow Boutique had its grand opening in Carmel City Center in September.

Lou Malnati's Pizzeria in The Bridges, makes Carmel its second Indiana location.

Naf Naf Grill brought made-from-scratch pitas, traditional Middle Eastern sauces and savory shawarma to its Carmel location.

Savor, a European-Mediterranean fusion restaurant opened in the Arts & Design District.

Simplifeye, a New York based software provider for medical healthcare businesses relocated its corporate headquarters to Carmel, bringing 75 high-paying jobs and an investment of \$10 million.



Monon Greenway at Midtown



Midtown Plaza

2020 MONUMENTAL AWARDS

The Indy Chamber hosted its 43rd Annual Monumental Awards ceremony in October at the iconic Tibbs Drive-In. These projects were submitted and received awards in the following categories:

Engineering - 96th Street and Keystone Parkway Interchange Corridor Improvement submitted by CHA Consulting

Merit Award for Engineering - Monon Boulevard, submitted by CrossRoad Engineers, P.C.

Landscape Architecture - Monon Boulevard, submitted by Rundell Ernstberger Associates

Real Estate Development - Monon Boulevard, submitted by Carmel Redevelopment Commission

DISCOVER WHY **CARMEL** IS A CITY TO EXPERIENCE!



If you are looking for a warm start to your day, our Caffeine Trail features an array of shops and restaurants offering gourmet coffees and teas served the way you like it.

CarmelCaffeineTrail.com



Whether it's a cold craft pint or a velvety Pinot Noir, you will enjoy this trail featuring over a dozen breweries, wineries and distilleries.

CarmelBrewsAndBarrels.com



News from the City of Carmel
One Civic Square
Carmel, Indiana 46032-7569
(317) 571-2400

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THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The City of Carmel's Department of Community Services launched a new update of the

comprehensive plan for the City's growth that will guide city planners and decision makers for the next decade or longer. The last update took place about 11 years ago and served the City well, but with recent growth in the central corridor and changes seen in business and residential patterns, the time has come for another update. The City engaged teams from Greenstreet and Yard & Company to assist City planning staff and leadership in updating the comprehensive plan around growth management, land use, transportation and environment. The public was asked to participate in a survey in order to provide feedback from local residents about thoughts and ideas they may have about the City's future growth.

CITY REFINANCES BOND ISSUES

The City of Carmel completed the refinance of two outstanding bond issues this year, a move that will save the City more than \$16.9 million of total interest savings. The bonds were priced on September 23 and the taxable interest rate on the Refunding Bonds was 1.99 percent, an excellent rate that reflects the City's AA bond rating by S&P Global Corporation.

The bonds refinanced were Carmel Redevelopment Authority, \$187,465,000 Taxable Lease Rental Revenue Bonds, Series 2020A and 2020B.

On an annual basis, the savings to the City will be:

- \$2.2 million in 2020
- \$2.7 million per year from 2021 through 2023
- \$465,000 per year from 2024 through 2037

FOR MORE INFO Visit Carmel.IN.gov or call (317) 571-2401



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